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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
**TELECOPY/FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

TO: Examiner P. Bex  
U.S. Patent Office - Art Unit 1743

DATE: October 3, 2001

FROM: Wei-Ning Yang

TIME: 11:29 AM

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER: 10

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**MESSAGE:**

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/335,363, filed June 17, 1999.

Faxed herein is the proposed amendment for our telephone interview on October 9, 2001.

**FOR INTERNAL PURPOSES ONLY**

TELECOPY/FAX NUMBER: (703) 872-9089

CLIENT NUMBER: 81841.0019

ATTORNEY BILLING NUMBER: 1933

CONFIRMATION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**DRAFT**

PATENT  
39D-1884 (81841.0019)  
AFTER FINAL RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

George K. Shibata, *et al.*

Serial No: 09/335,363

Filed: June 17, 1999

For: SAMPLE LOADING AND  
HANDLING INTERFACE TO  
MULTIPLE CHEMISTRY  
ANALYZERS

**PROPOSED RESPONSE UNDER**  
**37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

BOX AF

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: P. Bex

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Commissioner for Patents  
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Date of Deposit

Wei-Ning Yang, Reg. No. 38,690

Name

Signature

Date

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated August 22, 2001, please amend  
the above-referenced application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the text of claim 20 with the following text:

20. (Amended) A clinical chemistry system comprising:

a sample identification station comprising a sample identification mechanism  
for determining sample identification information from a primary sample tube;

a transferring mechanism for transferring a volume of the sample from the  
primary sample tube into a secondary sample tube;

a carriage mechanism that grips the primary sample tube contained in a  
holder, whereby the primary sample tube separates from the holder, and transports  
the primary sample tube to the sample identification station;